UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

W&T OFFSHORE, INC., AND W&T ENERGY VI, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

V. Civil Action No. 4:24-CV-03047 ENDURANCE ASSURANCE CORPORATION,

AND LEXON INSURANCE CO.

Defendants.

U.S. SPECIALTY INSURANCE

COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v. Civil Action No. 4:24-CV-

04113

W&T OFFSHORE, INC., AND

W&T ENERGY VI, LLC,

Defendants.

UNITED STATES FIRE INSURANCE

COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v. Civil Action No. 4:24-CV-04395

W&T OFFSHORE, INC., AND

W&T ENERGY VI, LLC,

Defendants.

PENNSYLVANIA INSURANCE

COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v. Civil Action No. 4:24-CV-04400

W&T OFFSHORE, INC.,

Defendant.

REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
JOINT MOTION BY THE SURETIES TO REMOVE ATTORNEY'S EYES
RESTRICTION ON EX PARTE NOTICE

Defendants, Endurance Assurance Corporation and Lexon Insurance Company; Plaintiff, U.S. Specialty Insurance Company; Plaintiff, United States Fire Insurance Company; and Plaintiff, Pennsylvania Insurance Company (collectively, the "Sureties") file this joint reply in further support of their joint motion to remove the outside attorney's eyes only restriction on the *ex parte* notice (the "Motion," Dkt. 100).

The Sureties respectfully submit that the Court should grant their Motion to allow dissemination of the *ex parte* notice (Dkt. 96) to their respective clients. However, the Sureties do not seek, nor do they believe it would be appropriate at this time, for the Court to order that the information be publicly disseminated.

W&T argues that the content of the *ex parte* notice is so sensitive that even outside counsel should not access it. Yet, W&T simultaneously suggests that allowing client review by the Sureties would justify lifting all confidentiality protections. The Sureties disagree. As it stands, outside counsel for the Sureties are unable to fully advise their clients on matters that could directly impact their risk exposure and litigation strategy. This limitation should be lifted. However, dissemination should remain restricted to the Sureties and not extend further. If necessary, the Court can enter a protective order so the Sureties do not further disseminate the communication.

Two judicial officers who reviewed the *ex parte* notice have since recused themselves. In order to avoid further disruptions of this nature, the Sureties respectfully propose that the information be shared with their respective clients only—not the public at large, and not even with Magistrate Judge Palermo or Judge Hanen, unless the Court determines otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

VINSON & ELKINS LLP

/s/ Jason M. Halper

Jason M. Halper*

Sara E. Brauerman*

1114 Avenue of the Americas, 32nd Floor

New York, NY 10036

Tel.: (212) 237-0000

Fax: (212) 237-0100

jhalper@velaw.com

sbrauerman@velaw.com

Alyx E. Eva

Texas Bar No. 24116334

Federal ID No. 3544812

Sarah Smati

Texas Bar No. 24137198

Federal ID No. 3895036

845 Texas Avenue, Suite 4700

Houston, Texas 77002-2947

Tel.: (713) 758-2060

Fax: (713) 615-5068

aeva@velaw.com

ssmati@velaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR ENDURANCE ASSURANCE CORPORATION AND LEXON INSURANCE COMPANY

^{*}Admitted pro hac vice

Case 4:24-cv-03047

BAINS LAW PLLC

By: /s/ Brandon K. Bains
Brandon K. Bains — Attorney in Charge
State Bar No. 24050126
S.D. Texas Bar No. 711977
P.O. Box 1027
Aledo, TX 76098
(214) 494-8097
(214) 380-9250 (fax)
brandon@bainslaw.com

ATTORNEY FOR U.S. SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

-and-

DRY LAW PLLC

/s/ Ryan D. Dry
Ryan D. Dry
Texas Bar No. 24050532
S.D. Tex. Bar No. 618363
Steven K. Cannon
Texas Bar No. 24086997
S.D. Tex Bar No. 3356957
Dry Law, PLLC
909 18th Street
Plano, TX 75074
(972) 797-9510 Tele/Fax
rdry@drylaw.com
scannon@drylaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PENNSYLVANIA INSURANCE COMPANY and UNITED STATES FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 28, 2025, I filed this document electronically with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System, which will send notification of such filing to all parties of record in the captioned case.

> /s/ Jason M. Halper Jason M. Halper